

**2012 State Damage Prevention Program Grants Progress Report**  
**CFDA Number: 20.720**

**Award Number:** *DTPH56-12-G-PHPS03*

**Project Title:** *New Jersey Board of Public Utilities State Damage Prevention*

**Date Submitted:** *March 1, 2013*

**Submitted by:** *Michael Stonack*

**Specific Objective(s) of the Agreement**

*Under this grant agreement, the New Jersey will:*

- ☐ *Develop and implement methods for effective communication*
- ☐ *Foster support and partnership with stakeholders*
- ☐ *Foster and promote the use of Improving Technologies*

**Workscope**

*Under the terms of this grant agreement, the Grantee will address the following elements listed in 49 USC §60134 through the actions it has specified in its Application.*

- ☐ *Element (1): Participation by operators, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of methods for establishing and maintaining effective communications between stakeholders from receipt of an excavation notification until successful completion of the excavation, as appropriate.*
- ☐ *Element (2): A process for fostering and ensuring the support and partnership of stakeholders, including excavators, operators, locators, designers, and local government in all phases of the program.*
- ☐ *Element (8): A process for fostering and promoting the use, by all appropriate stakeholders, of improving technologies that may enhance communications, underground pipeline locating capability, and gathering and analyzing information about the accuracy and effectiveness of locating programs."*

**Accomplishments for this period (Item 1 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Progress Report: "A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives established for the period.")**

- *The project team has begun conversations with New Jersey One Call (NJOC) to coordinate the development of the locator application (app).*
- *NJOC has shared the outbound XML Schema to the team. This document defines the protocol to be used by the software in order to properly communicate with the NJOC system.*
- *The team has contacted two gas utility operators (Public Service Electric & Gas Company and New Jersey Natural Gas Company) as well as a third party locator (Atlantic Infratrac) to set up meetings in which the locator stakeholder group can define their "needs and wants" for a locator app. This information will be used to develop a design specification for the app.*

**Quantifiable Metrics/Measures of Effectiveness (Item 2 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “Where the output of the project can be quantified, a computation of the cost per unit of output.”)**

- *The vision of this program is to improve cross-communication of the "extent of work area" defined by the excavator. The team anticipates that communicating a geospatially defined shape layered on a satellite image will result in greater clarity in communication between the excavator and locator. The measure of effectiveness will be defined by the feedback from the stakeholders.*

**Issues, Problems or Challenges (Item 3 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “The reasons for slippage if established objectives were not met. “)**

- *Notification of Grant Award by PHMSA was over one year in length from the date of the Grant application submitted by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities.*
- *Notification of the Grant Award does not allow any interim period between the notification date and the start of the Period of Performance.*
- *Contract Preparation and Approval between New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and vendor (“Rutgers University Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation”) is required by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities prior to a vendor starting work on a Grant Award project and this resulted in a delayed starting date for the project.*
- *As a result, the Principal Investigator (PI) for this Grant Award is requesting a time extension for the period of performance until December 31, 2013. The PI will submit a request letter for this time extension until December 31, 2013 to the Grant Officer (GO).*

**Mid-term Financial Status Report**

- *See Form SF-425, Federal Financial Report, submitted by PI on March 1, 2013.*

**Plans for Next Period (Remainder of Grant)**

- *The project team will meet with the locator stakeholders to develop a design specification based on feedback as well as State-based legislative requirements for ticket processing.*
- *The team will present the design specifications for approval.*
- *Once approval is secured, the team will develop and lab-test the locator app.*
- *The app will then be field tested in concert with the previously developed excavator app. Cross-communication will be tested and results documented.*
- *The Grant also includes an expansion of the use of the excavator app. The team will deploy 4 tablet devices in the field to excavators for their use in submitting electronic white line tickets.*
- *The team will document progress with excavators’ use of the app and will compile a "best practices" manual.*

**Requests of the AOTR and/or PHMSA**

- *The PI will submit a request letter for a time extension for the period of performance until December 31, 2013 to the Grant Officer (GO).*